



Winter Trail Access and Condition Update April 18th – April 26th, 2019

Spring Trail Highlights

- Most other summer trails are under snow/ice or have a wintry mix of mud and snow. The Deschutes River Trail, Horse Butte area, some trails in the Phil's system, and low elevation trails around Sisters are all accessible.
- Winter wind storms brought down many trees. Trail users are likely to encounter downfall as more trails melt out and become accessible. Volunteers and FS staff will clear downfall as quickly as we are able.
- Winter recreation continues, with recent snowfall at high elevations. With good depth, coverage remains excellent at most area SnoParks. Snow conditions will vary considerably, day to day and hour to hour, based on weather.
- The takedown of temporary snow poles in the Dutchman-Moon Mountain area has begun. Trail navigation can be difficult without these poles. It is the responsibility of the user to know where they are.
- The Three Sisters Wilderness, Bend City Watershed, and "Dutchalo" area are all CLOSED to snowmobiles and other motorized vehicles.
- The temporary closure on Deschutes River Trail from Dillon Falls to Slough has been LIFTED. Work will continue at Ryan Ranch, but the trail is now open.
- Dogs are prohibited on the north side of Cascade Lakes Highway, including Meissner, Swampy, and Dutchman Sno-Parks. This closure lasts until April 30th.
- NW Forest Passes required at various trailheads and day use sites.
- Cascade Lakes Welcome Station is open Saturday and Sunday, 8am-4pm.



Volunteers with Central Oregon Trails Alliance (COTA) working recently on a mountain bike trail. Trail managers are anticipating heavy downfall on summer trails. Thank a volunteer if you meet one!



Heart of Oregon Crew members constructing fence at Rimrock Trailhead. FS and HOC are completing some finish work at Rimrock.



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SnoPark Conditions Table Coding:

Special area restrictions or notations relating to the table below are as follows:

1 = Area/trails closed to dogs except working dogs in harness on groomed snowmobile trails and only with a permit

2 = Area open to dogs

3 = Area/trails closed to motorized use

4 = Vehicles with trailers limited to 40' overall length

5 = High to extreme use with special area/trail restrictions, see sno-park information board, trail maps and area signing for full details. Very limited parking, try to avoid on weekends and holidays.

Deschutes National Forest SnoPark Conditions Table

As of April 18th, 2019

General snow conditions: Spring-like with good coverage.

SNO-PARK NAME Designated trails or activities with numerical notations explained above	LOCATION Hwy or Road and milepost	PARK ELEV.	APPROX. SNOW DEPTH TOTAL	SNOW CONDITIONS AND SPECIAL COMMENTS (Conditions subject to change without notice and at the whim of Nature)
Meissner 1 Ski/snowshoe	HWY 46, MP 14	5,350'	24-48"	Good conditions. No dogs. Grooming ended on April 1 st . Take the bus: http://www.mtbachelor.com/info/mtbachelor-shuttle/
Wanoga Snow Play , 2 3 Tubing/sledding; Groomed ski/dog trails; Groomed Fat Bike trails	HWY 46, MP 15	5,400'	24-48"	Good conditions. Expect heavy use on weekends. Pack home broken sleds and all trash. Grooming ended April 1 st .
Wanoga Snowmobile 2 Snowmobiling	HWY 46, MP 15	5,500'	24-60"	Grooming ended April 1 st .
Swampy 1 3 Ski/snowshoe	HWY 46, MP 16	5,800'	48-84"	Good conditions.
Vista Butte 1 3 Ski/snowshoe	HWY 46, MP 18	5,950'	60-84"	Good conditions.
Dutchman 1 4 5 Ski/shoe/snowmobiling	HWY 46, MP 22	6,250'	72-108"	Good conditions. Limited parking/no overnight camping. 40' max length limit for vehicle/trailer combination. Expect heavy use!



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Kapka Butte 2 Snowmobiling/ski/shoe	¼ mi. s. of Hwy 46, on Road 45	5,900'	48-72"	Good conditions. Grooming ended April 1 st .
Edison 2 Ski/shoe/snowmobiling	4 mi. s. of Hwy 46 on Road 45	5,000'	36-60"	Good conditions. Area roads closed to Hwy vehicles Dec. 1 - March 31.
Skyliner 2 Ski/snowshoe	Skyliner Rd MP 9	4,700'	Estimated patchy	Gate/road to Tumalo Falls closed to motor vehicles for the season.
Six Mile 2 Snowmobiling	Road 21, MP 6 East of Hwy 97	4,400'	24"	Good conditions. Road 21 beyond Ten Mile closed to vehicles for winter season.
Ten Mile 2 Snowmobile/ski/shoe	Road 21, MP 10 East of Hwy 97	5,560'	36-60"	Good conditions. Road 21 beyond Ten Mile closed to vehicles for winter season.
Lower Three Creek 2 Snowmobile/Ski	Road 16, MP 8	4,400'	Patchy	Good conditions. Snow Park not currently plowed due to low use and lack of funding.
Upper Three Creek 2 Snowmobile/ski/shoe	Road 16, MP 11	5,250'	24"	Good conditions. Road 16 closed to vehicles at SnoPark.
Hwy 242 (McKenzie Pass) 2 Snowmobile/ski/shoe	Hwy 242, MP 7 from Sisters	3,800'	Estimated 18"	Hwy closed to summer access. Parking area may not be plowed.
Crescent Junction 2 Snowmobiling	Hwy 58/Road 60 MP 1/2	4,750'	24-36"	Fair conditions.
Crescent Lake 2 Snowmobiling/BC (no ski/snowshoe trails)	Hwy 58/Road 60 MP 2	4,700'	24-36"	Fair conditions.

For more information on winter trail grooming and maintenance, go to:

- **Meissner Nordic Club** - Ski trail grooming at Meissner – <http://www.meissnernordic.org/>
- **Central Oregon Nordic Club** - Ski/snowshoe trail maintenance on most area blue diamond trails
- <http://conordicclub.org/new/>
- **DogPac** - Grooming/maintenance on ski trails open to dogs out of Wanoga Snow Play Sno-Park -
<http://dogpac.org/>



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- **Central Oregon Snowbusters and Sisters Sno-Go-Fers Snowmobile Clubs** - Wanoga to Sisters area trail grooming – <http://mooncountry.us/grooming-report.aspx>
- **La Pine Lodgepole Dodgers Snowmobile Club** – Newberry National Volcanic Monument area trails - <http://www.lapinedodgerssnow.org/default.aspx>
- **Walker Rim Riders Snowmobile Club** - Crescent area - <http://www.walkerrimriders.com/page125235.aspx>
- **Mt. Jefferson Snowmobile Club** - Santiam Pass area - <http://www.mtjefferson.org/>
- **COTA Winter Fat Bike Trail Grooming** - out of Wanoga Snow Play Sno-Park, for the 2018-19 winter season as snow conditions allow - <http://www.cotamtb.com/winter-fat-bike-trails-grooming-info.html>

WINTER MAP DOWNLOADS ON iPhone, ANDROID OR TABLET:

Using the GPS in your phone the Avenza Maps app works on your iPhone or Android smart phone or tablet to show you your location on a map you have downloaded. You will need the Avenza Maps app on your iPhone or Android to use this function. If you do not already have the Avenza Maps app you will need to download this free app.

Go to: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/deschutes/maps-pubs/?cid=STELPRDB5408820> to download PDF winter maps directly.

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST SUMMER TRAIL CONDITIONS AS OF 4/18/19:

****ALL SUMMER TRAILS ARE UNDER SNOW/INACCESSIBLE, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED BELOW****

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** – Mixed bag. Some trails are dry and riding well. Others remain snow covered and/or muddy. E-Bikes are NOT allowed on any non-motorized trails. For more information on COTA, go to: <http://cotamtb.com/>
- ❖ **Deschutes River Trail** – Snow free and mostly dry. Some downfall possible. Northwest Forest Passes are required for parking in posted NWFP locations. Iron Ranger fee stations are available at: Meadow Picnic, Road 41 and Hwy 46 junction, Benham East and Lava Lands "After Hours Parking Lot" (Black Rock TH).
- ❖ **Sun Lava Paved Path** between Sunriver, Benham East and Lava Lands (Trailhead access points at south end of Lava Lands parking lot, Benham East or Circle 7 in Sunriver). Snow free. Heavy use on weekends.



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- ❖ **Lava Lands Trails** - Snow free. Lava Lands trails are open, including interpretive trails and Lave Butte trails. Lava River Cave now CLOSED for the season.
- ❖ **Tumalo Creek 2 Trail** – Patchy. Hiker only.
- ❖ **Horse Butte to Swamp Wells area trails** – Snow free on Arnold Ice Cave Loop/Coyote. Snow as one goes towards Swamp Wells Horse Camp.
- ❖ **Peter Skene Ogden Trail** – Deep snow.
- ❖ **Lava Cast Forest Trailhead** – Likely patchy snow. NWFP required!
- ❖ **Hoffman Island Trailhead** – Likely patchy snow.

Sisters Ranger District:

- ❖ **Black Butte Trail** – Deep snow. NWFP required at TH.
- ❖ **Metolius River Trails** – Snow free and clear of downfall. **Canyon Creek Trailhead now OPEN.**
- ❖ **Suttle Lake Trail** – Snow free. Moderate downfall.
- ❖ **Lake Creek Trail** – Snow free. Possible downfall.
- ❖ **Whychus Creek** – Snow free. Trailhead (6 vehicle capacity) and lower end of canyon trail is in good condition. **Please, stay on the main designated trail and avoid using posted and closed social trails in restoration sections.**
- ❖ **Whychus Overlook Trail** (barrier free, closed to stock and bikes) – Snow free. Trailhead and trail are in good condition. Please stay on designated trails.
- ❖ **Peterson Ridge Trails** – Snow free.

MARCH/APRIL SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:

April 20th – Bend Marathon – Running race on Welcome Station paved path

SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES/OPENINGS:

Hwy 46	CLOSED at West Village turnout.
FR 370	CLOSED for winter season.
Tumalo Falls Road	CLOSED for winter season.
FR 21	CLOSED at 10 Mile SnoPark for winter season.
Hwy 242	CLOSED for winter season.
FR 16	CLOSED for winter season.
FR 60	CLOSED for winter season.



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“LEAVE NO TRACE” REMINDER:

PLEASE, PRACTICE THE SEVEN LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPALS:

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Dispose of Waste Properly

Leave What You Find

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Respect Wildlife

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

For details on the 7 LNT Principals: <http://lnt.org/learn/7-principles>

TEN ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS:

For details on the “Ten Essential **Systems**”:

http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/ten+essentials.html?s_kwcid=TC|13029|ten%20essentials||S|p|7499840765&cm_mmc=ps_google_CH--Category%20-%20Camp%2fHike--Camping%2fHiking_GeneralTerms_Essentials--ten%20essentials&gclid=CNq_h8Xbsq4CFQN8hwodYhH-PQ

For further information on Deschutes National Forest winter or summer trails, please call:

Deschutes National Forest Headquarters: (541) 383-5300

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District: (541) 383-4000

Sisters Ranger District: (541) 549-7700

Crescent Ranger District: (541) 433-3200

Find this weekly trail access and condition report in the Deschutes National Forest Website at:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5299503.pdf

Other trail access and conditions information can be found at:

<https://bendtrails.org/>

Central Oregon Off Hwy Vehicle Program:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5340950.pdf

Prineville BLM: <https://www.blm.gov/tag/prineville-district-office>